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BULLETIN No. 191 DECEMBER 2001

BRITISH WEST INDIES STUDY CIRCLE

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OBJECTS

- 1 TO promote interest in and the study of the stamps and postal history & the islands that comprise the British West Indies and in addition BERMUDA, BRITISH GUIANA (GUYANA) and BRITISH HONDURAS (BELIZE) and the Postal History and markings of all other Caribbean territories during any period that were under British administration or control, and those British Post Offices which operated in the Caribbean, and Central or South America.
- 2 TO issue a quarterly BULLETIN containing articles, items of interest and other features.
- 3 TO loan books from the Circle library (home members only). Borrowers bear postage both ways. Lists supplied upon application to Hon. Librarian accompanied by an S.A.E. (9" x 6½") 2nd Class postage 150 gm rate required.
- 4 TO publicise 'wants' and furnish opinions on stamp(s) and/or cover(s) for a nominal fee.
- 5 TO encourage, assist or sponsor the authorship and publication of definitive handbooks. Monographs or other works of reference appropriate to the aim in para 1 above.

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MEMBERSHIP - is WORLD WIDE in scope and open to all whether they be new or advanced collectors.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Victor Toeg

Sir John Brook Marriott, K.C.V.O, R.D.P., F.R.P.S.L

My wife and I wrote to Lady Marriott on learning of her very sad loss and at the same time I also offered the condolences of the members of the BWI Study Circle.

Lady Marriott replied as follows:-

"How nice of you to write. Do please pass on my thanks to the members of the BWI Study Circle for their kind message. These last few years have been very sad and difficult but earlier memories are happy.

Mary"

BIENNIAL CONVENTION REPORT by Dennis Mitton

Over 50 members and guests gathered at the Manor House hotel at Royal Learnington Spa for the biennial convention of the Circle over the weekend of the 21-22nd September 2001. Proceedings began with a wine and cheese party on the Friday night. A short welcoming speech was made by Derek Nathan before the members enjoyed the wine and cheese. After the wine ran out it was off to dinner for the members. A lot of the members had dinner at the hotel at a cost of £6 for a 3 course meal. There was no special menu for the members as they could choose from the main menu which would have cost anybody else some £16. Excellent value and the food was good!

The next day virtually everybody descended upon the Jephson room before Derek Nathan had a chance to give a brief speech formally opening the convention. The reason being that members know that the early bird catches the worm when it comes to a bourse and most members were not disappointed by their visit to the dealers and the members table.

Although there were only 4 dealers present they were all specialist BWI dealers with many goodies to be found. The dealers present were David Druett, Michael Hamilton, Alan Leverton and Derek Lilley all of

whom seemed satisfied by their sales. Many members took the advantage of viewing the forthcoming auction lots of the Pennymead and Caribbean sales.

Competing against the dealers was the members table managed by Simon Goldblatt who helped members find items of interest as well as dispensing helpful advice when required. As usual Simon performed his task with distinction.

There was also the Circle publication table manned by Peter Ford who made sure that members purchased the publications and didn't spend their time browsing without buying!

There were two displays during the day which will be written about elsewhere. Both were superb and well worth seeing, even if they were not the country of your collecting choice. During the day, except when the invited displays were taking place in the adjacent room, there were informal displays under the control of Mike Rego who tried to give time and space to all those who wished to display, but there was one too many. A thank you to all who displayed and to the member who failed. Never mind there is Wipex coming up next year and as I hope to be in charge of the displays I'll make sure yours will be seen!!

During the morning Gill Mitton had the pleasure of persuading members to buy raffle tickets with the chance of winning two bottles of plonk and two strange coloured wooden items which turned out to be salt and pepper mills. As a result of her efforts these items resulted in the sum of £64 going to the Circle. The draw for the raffle was undertaken by Mary Nathan who also assisted Gill where she could as she was suffering from the affects of a recent hip operation. We all wish her well so that she will have no excuse for being unable to caddy for Derek!

Unfortunately because of the recent troubles in USA a number of American members were unable to make it across but Michel Forand of Canada turned up for the meeting. It was the first time he has attended and he enjoyed it. Nice to see you and hope you can make it again.

By the time 5.30 arrived those who had overdosed on philately departed leaving the hard core to enjoy a further evening of socialising before departing on the Sunday with many happy memories of yet another successful convention.

REPORT ON THE TWO MAIN DISPLAYS

Barbados Postal History by Stefan Heijtz

The display by Stefan Heijtz covered nearly 200 years of Barbados postal history from the early colonial period until the Colony joined the Universal Postal Union in 1881. Assembled over the comparatively brief period of fifteen years, the display opened with a scarce inland letter of 1686, one of the earliest examples known. There followed, in some ninety covers, a most comprehensive chronicle of both inbound and outbound mail covering the various packet and ship letter rates throughout the West Indies, England and Europe. The early Barbados marks included a fine cover bearing the two line datestamp of 1800, of which only three undamaged examples are known.

The adhesives had nearly eighty examples of the Britannias on various covers, highlighted by several rare registered rates and mixed frankings to unusual destinations, including Sicily. Among the gems were an 1854 example of the 2d greyish slate (SG4a), bisected for use as the 1d rate, on a cover to British Guiana. There were two other examples of bisects, one of the 1d deep blue (SG24) bisected for use as the newspaper rate of ½d in 1863 on the front page of a copy of Punch and the other a most handsome example of the 1d on 5s (SG86). Stefan thought this was most probably a forgery, if so it has been most handsomely done, presumably at the time. There were numerous other examples of the various rates including late fees and the military concession rates for both officers and soldiers.

This was a quite magnificent display and, from the this tyro's point of view, an education and alone well worth the journey to Learnington.

John Riggall

Early Mail Services to the Turks and Caicos Islands by Andrew Robertson

The first permanent settlement was not established until 1781 and for a long time thereafter the small population consisted almost entirely of Bermudians and their slaves who worked in the salt raking industry. During this early period most letters would have been addressed to Bermuda and were carried by any vessel making the voyage. With such an ad hoc system no identifying postal markings would have been applied.

The earliest correspondence known to have been sent from the Turks and Caicos Islands dates from 1796. As the salt industry grew, so too did the population and the quantity and variety of goods shipped to the Islands. At this time there were no regular services. Most ships arrived from or departed to Nassau in the Bahamas, Bermuda, St. Thomas (at that time in the Danish West Indies) and New York.

The Turks and Caicos Islands had long been considered to be a prime location for the assembly and distribution of mails for the British West Indies. This advantage was finally recognised when a bi-monthly trans-Atlantic mail service was started on 1 January 1842 by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (R.M.S.P.). The route was: Southampton - St. Thomas -Turks Island - Havana - Nassau - Bermuda - Azores - Southampton. Unfortunately, the stop at the Turks Island (Grand Turk) was used on only a few occasions. The entrance to the harbour was not very satisfactory and the need to anchor some distance offshore in a fairly exposed deep water anchorage could be difficult. The problem was highlighted when the 'Medina', which departed from Southampton on 17 April 1842, was wrecked on 12 May at Grand Turk. The packet service was not immediately suspended, for it is recorded that the 'Tweed' called at Grand Turk on 29/30 June en route for Falmouth and Southampton. The stop at Grand Turk was suspended in September 1842 when the packet depot was transferred to St. Thomas following an agreement with the Danish West Indies. At this time there were no handstamps or datestamps in use. The postal rates were:- Ship Letters 8d, Packet Letters 1s and Letters to West Indian Colonies 4d.

Although a 'TURKS - ISLANDS SHIP - LETTER' handstamp had been registered as early as 1840 at the General Post Office in London, it does not appear to have been used until the 1860s. This suggests that it was not sent out to the Islands until much later, perhaps when the Turks and Caicos Islands Post Office was established in 1854. In the short period when the R.M.S.P. depot was operating at Grand Turk, letters in transit were inscribed 'Turks Island', 'Turks Islands' or 'Turks Isds.'

After 1842, postal services from the Turks and Caicos Islands once more became quite erratic. On a number of occasions the Members of the Council of Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands wrote to the Secretary of State for the Colonies requesting a better postal service. From 1842 to 1848, while the Islands were still annexed to the Bahamas it would appear that the service was poor but tolerable. When the Turks and Caicos Islands became a separate Colony under the supervision of the Governor of Jamaica, postal services further deteriorated.

On 21 July 1852 the Council made a plea to the Colonial Office in London, which plea seems to have been received favourably, for a regular service by schooner between Grand Turk and St. Thomas was started in 1852. Not long after, the Turks and Caicos Islands Post Office was established on 11 December 1854 with an office on Queen Street, Grand Turk. TheTurks and Caicos Islands are spread over a considerable area, and the principal communities at the time were located at Grand Turk (also known a Cockburn Town) and Cockburn Harbour on South Caicos, with smaller settlements at Balfour Town on Salt Cay and Blue Hills on the Island of Providenciales. It was not until 1923 that sub-post offices were opened at Cockburn Harbour and Blue Hills. Prior to 1910, local letters had been carried to and from the Post Office at Grand Turk by individuals and traders travelling among the islands. In 1910, this became more formal with the issue of a 1s.4d stamp to cover local inter-island mail.

The opening of the Post Office at Grand Turk led to changes and improvements in the postal service. Although a lower uniform postal rate was introduced for mail between the British West Indies and the United Kingdom, the Turks and Caicos Islands were excluded. However, in 1856 the rate of 6d per ½oz.

was introduced to cover postage between any part of the Colony and any part of the United Kingdom. At approximately the same time, the Packet Letter datestamp was brought into use at Grand Turk. The following year the Crowned Circle Paid handstamp was introduced for cancelling outgoing mail. The Book Post was established in 1857. It was not until the early 1860s that the Ship Letter handstamp, originally registered in 1840 was finally brought into service for application to incoming mail.

Of the colonies in the British West Indies, the Turks and Caicos Islands were one of the few where the stamps of Great Britain were not used prior to the issue of their own stamps. Trinidad was the first to issue its own postage stamps as early as 1847, but for the Turks and Caicos Islands stamps were not issued until 4 April 1867.

REPORT ON THE INFORMAL DISPLAYS

by Michael Rego

All told there were 10 informal displays during the Convention, running to 1½ hours in the morning and similar time in the afternoon. The first display was by D. Brook with title 'Lady Boats'; the showing gave 23 sheets of a detailed study mainly on covers, and was assisted with illustrations and photographs of the liners of the CNS service Canada - West Indies, which covers the period 1928 to 1954. A similar study was displayed by Michael Oliver, titled 'Lady Ships'. This was 18 sheets of markings from the liners and accompanied by diagrams of the 2 prime east and west Caribbean routes. The display covered the period 1928-1940.

The next display by Denis Charlesworth titled 'Jamaica Postal History' of 18 sheets covered the prestamp era from 1676-1800. The covers were from various post offices in Jamaica, and covered an assortment of interesting material. David Fidler, gave the fourth display titled 'Bahamas History and Heritage on Stamps'. In all there were 30 sheets telling the history of Bahamas on just 16 stamps, tracing the island discovery by Columbus up to modern day. The stamps 'Chronicle of the Bahamas' illustrated the greatest events in its history.

Other sheets displayed the Columbus quincentenary stamp issue of 1988-1992 in five sets each accompanied with a well illustrated miniature sheet. A 1978 miniature sheet also displayed Bahamas' architectural heritage, and the 1996 souvenir sheet recorded the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the nation's Archives Department.

Another morning display, the fifth, was by Bob Swarbrick, titled 'TPOs of Jamaica', this varied showing of photographs, post cards, covers, maps, gave an informative 29 sheet illustration of the Jamaica Government railway, and was well received. The sixth showing, by Simon Kelly, was split into 2 separate displays of 15 + 15 sheets, titled 'Bahamas - Pre-stamp' and 'Bahamas Stamps 1863 1/- issue'. Both displays were well written up and again proved of interest to a number of collectors.

Brian Brooks excelled in quantity and quality, his display being a two part showing of 24 and 40 sheets, titled 'St. Kitts Straight-Line Markings' and 'St. Kitts 1903 Stamp Issue' respectively. The first part included some fine examples of the rare markings for this small island; in many cases only one or two known marks are known recorded. This was supported with the second part showing, with fine proof material, of the 1903 Stamp issue, causing a great deal of interest in the date sequence of proofing.

The eighth display by Steve Jarvis, entitled 'Jamaica Advertisements & Publicity' showed a total of 25 sheets of various slogan handstamps on covers and publicity labels. Several rare items were commented upon, and the display was well written up given added information. The ninth display 'Bermuda Postal History of 1866-1906' by Dennis Mitton totalled 16 sheets of covers, telling the story of 40 years of rates, routes, and transit markings in Bermuda's history. The final showing, tenth in total, was given by Tony Farmer, titled 'Leeward Islands Stamps, Proofs, and Stationery' covering overprints of QV and issues from KEVII, and several 'SPECIMEN' varieties showing the letter 'N' with a wide foot. Finally, we were unable to show D. W. Richards display 'West Indies Cricket' as we ran out of time.

The displays proved of interest to many members present, and warranted more time than the 20 minutes that the organiser was reluctantly able to allot them

BARBADOS

INTERNET GLEANINGS

As the Internet becomes ever more pervasive, we seem to be spending too much time 'surfing the web' trying to find that elusive cover, or that particular cancel on a specific stamp, etc. During the past few months, the following three items have surfaced. The information is being passed on for the benefit of other collectors.

1. SG Type 2 Forgery

We no longer collect forgeries and have disposed of the collection. However, we do not recall having previously seen a forgery of the ½d. with the value expressed (*Fig. 1*). From the illustration, it appears to be a crude litho forgery and, surely, will not deceive any serious collector. Incidentally, this forgery is not mentioned in the Bayley handbook, *The Stamps of Barbados*.







Fig. 2.

2. Early Attempt at Stamp Separation

The second item is intriguing, as on the surface it appears to be an early attempt at stamp separation. It seems that the imperforate sheet of stamps was separated by scissors into horizontal strips: then the individual stamps were cut on both sides to approximately 90% of the way up in the vertical plane. When a stamp was purchased, it was torn off and handed to the customer (*Fig.* 2). The stamp in question is SG 8, the ($\frac{1}{2}$ d) on white paper. As Michael Hamilton has pointed out to us, however, the practice could NOT have been widespread, since such stamps as the one illustrated

by Fitz Roett

are far from common.

3. Oval "SHIP LETTER" Marking _ A new LDK

The Barbados postmark book, *Barbados Post Office Markings to 1981* by Clarke, Radford and Cave, gives the LKD of use of D3 as 30 October 1903. We no longer collect this time period, so have not been keeping up to date. However, a recent lot caught my eye: the cancellation appears on a 1d. Victory stamp SG 212 and is dated 24 JY (date unclear) - most probably 1921. (Victory stamps issued September 1920 and Small Seal placed on sale November 1921.)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author wishes to acknowledge the individuals who listed the items discussed above. Unfortunately, I did not keep a record of the E-mail addresses.

Advert	
Adven	
FREDERICK P.SCHMITT	

BARBADOS

The (1/2d.) Stamps 1852 to 1858 (An Update) by FitzRoett

In the original article published March 2001 (Bulletin No. 188), we requested members to forward information which would enhance the listing. We are happy to report that two members have sent on such information. Firstly, *Charles Freeland* writes:-

Blue Paper

1854. Pair of SG2 on cover to Bridgetown cancelled St. Lucy No. 11. Same correspondence as the Brassier item but not the same cover. (Max Bass collection 5-6/11/58 and Harmers, London May 1961.)

White Paper

- I. 27 Jan 1860. Pair on large piece to St. Lucia (Harmers 1/71).
- II. 1858. Pair on cover to Rev. King, Rectory, St. Philip (Phillips 4/88).
- III. Date not mentioned. Superb pair to Fabien, Trinidad (Corinphila 6/82). This is probably the Caspary cover and was not illustrated.

In accordance with the original article, Item (i) is probably SG8 while Item (ii) is SG7. Secondly, *Peter Longmuir* provided the following information, together with Xeroxes. All of the following are printed on White Paper:-

- I. March 6 1860. SG7. Single on cover with manuscript '4' addressed to George Chapman, Demerara. (There is an outline of a further stamp in bottom left corner which may have been removed, but seems oddly placed if so.)
- II. February 25 1855. SG9. Single from St. Philip to Chapman and Eversley, Bridgetown. Date is quite close to the cover dated in the Royal Collection.
- III. March 8 1855. SG9. Single on cover to Fitt, Trinidad. (This cover was reported in the December, 1992 Bulletin No. 155 concerning the EKD of the E1 canceller).

Our comments are, as follows:-

Item (i). The second (½d.) is missing as the charge to the Barbados PO for the single rate packet mail was 1d. Item (ii). We have briefly examined ANOTHER cover dated 20 February 1855 which, at first glance, was certainly thought to be SG9. It is hoped we will be able to have a full examination in the not too distant future and persuade the owner to have the item certified. Will report on any further developments.

We trust interested members will amend the original article accordingly and hope further information will be forthcoming.

BRITISH GUIANA

Use of Great Britain Stamps by Michael Medlicott

Neither Townsend & Howe nor Stanley Gibbons is particularly forthcoming on the subject of Great Britain stamps authorised for sale in Georgetown (A03) and New Amsterdam (A04) to pay overseas postage.

The first consignment arrived in the first Royal Mail steamer of May 1858, and continued in use for something under two years, until the arrival of the higher denomination lithographed Waterlow ship types.

The issued stamps (vide *Stanley Gibbons Specialised Stamp Catalogue, Vol. 1, Great Britain, Queen Victoria*) are a fascinating study of shades, papers, re-entries and watermark errors and varieties, but I am not aware (pace Derek Nathan and Simon Greenwood) that much has been published that studies their diversity with British Guiana cancellations.

It may start a ball rolling, therefore, to report that a damaged strip of four of the sixpence (SG Z3) sold in Harmers's June auction turns out to have the watermark inverted, i.e. with the thistle in the top right corner and pointing to the right when viewed from the front of the stamp. As Gibbons gives a 100% price premium to the inverted watermark for GB, members may turn at least a paper profit by examining examples in their collections.

GRENADA

Revenue Issue of 1884 by Michael Medlicott

Like its near-contemporary Postage counterpart, the Revenue issue of 1884 was printed in sheets of 240, divided into four panes of 60, each pane set in tête-bêche rows.

The Revenue and Postage issues shared a head-plate and, probably, all or most of the plate flaws are common to both. The best known flaws include:-

- white hairline in the right-hand border of diamonds, position 6/1 in the lower left pane (I have it only on the five shilling revenue);
- broken left outer frame line, recorded as stamp 34, presumably in the upper left pane. (I have it only on the one penny revenue);
- broken top left spandrel, position unknown to me.

The duty plates for the Revenue issue are a happy hunting ground, and the eagle eye of Michael Hamilton, where mine was blind, spotted:-

- short-legged 'R' in 'GRENADA'; the tops of the letters are aligned, but both legs of the 'R' are
 visibly foreshortened to the naked eye. I have it on the three pence and two shillings revenues, in
 the latter case on both upright and inverted watermark examples. Charles Freeland reports a
 sighting on a 4d with upright watermark.
- bottom-sliced 'G' in 'GRENADA'. I have it on the nine pence and two shillings revenues. Further reports would be most welcome.

ATTENTION!!

IMPORTANT NOTICE!!

With my imminent departure for sunnier climes, the distribution of the publications has been taken over by Mike Spaven. As from 1st January 2002, all future orders for publications from the UK and Overseas (except the US) should be sent to him.

His address is:	Eccleston House, 272, Prescot Road, St. Helens, MERSEYSIDE WA10 3AB
Telephone: Fax: E-mail:	0174423437 01744451691 jmlspaven©aolcom
Orders from US bas	sed members should continue to be directed through Clary Holt.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

Department Marks

by Clary Holt

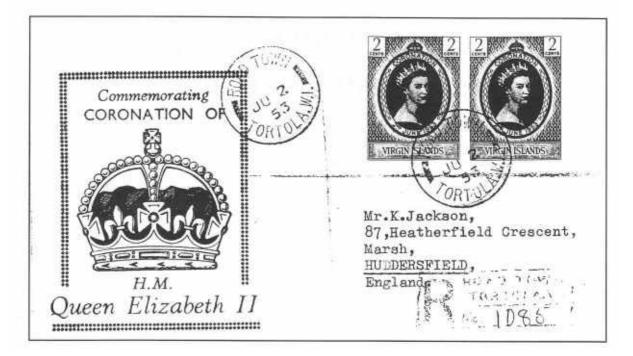
Last fall Kevin May of Ipswich, England sent me a BVI First Day Cover. On the reverse there was a double oval with a crown in the centre with 'Postmaster Virgin Islands' in the border. The cover is undoubtedly philatelic. I had never seen this mark and commenced an inquiry as to its use. I wrote to J. L. 'Jay' Fredrick, who has served for many years as BVI group leader for the BCPSG. I received a most informative letter from him, which I quote below:

"Dear Clary,

Sorry for the delay in responding to your letter of 29 September, but it took me some time to find my notes on the subject of BVI 'department marks', including 'Postmaster'. Based on known examples, there are a total of four different oval types for Postmaster, as follows:

- 1. Double oval with Crown No. 1 (your example), which was in use from 29 March 1932 to at least 2 July 1953 (your cover date).
- 2. Double oval with Crown No. 2, which was in use during the latter half of the 1950s.
- 3. Double oval with Crown No. 3, which was in use from 30 August 1966 to at least 26 February 1982.
- 4. Single oval with Crown No. 3, which was in use in 1976.
- 5. The most common of these are Types 1 and 3, according to my data.

Usage of these marks occurs mostly on OHMS covers to philatelists in the US, GB, BWI and South America, which contained BVI stamps ordered or information related thereto, were First Day Covers (like your example) etc. Types 1 and 2 bore BVI stamps to pay the required postage, while Types 3 and 4 were free-franked (no stamps required). These marks seem to be randomly struck in black, blackish



purple, purple, pale purple, deep purple, violet and blue. To the best of my knowledge, all of these marks are hand-struck rubber stamps, some of which show 'wear and tear' like on your cover and a similar FDC that I have.

In addition to the above 'Postmaster' types, there is a straight line 'Postmaster' type, an oval 'Postmaster/West End' type, several 'Post Office' types, and numerous other departmental marks ranging from 'Accountant General' to 'Treasurer'.

Well, I guess I have briefly told you more than you expected. However, if you need further information, I will be happy to oblige.

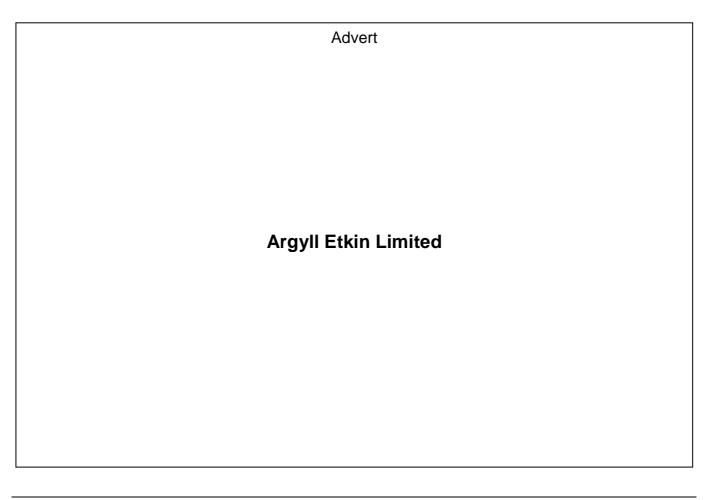
Best regards,



Fig. 2

Jay"

I contacted him by telephone and have since had interesting conversations with him concerning these marks. I have also arranged with him to send me examples as shown in his letter. The mark appears to be used as a seal. The two of us have been burdened with advancing age and a couple of health problems. Rather than wait for everything to be final, I thought our members would like to see and read what I have already obtained. When Jay and I have recovered, we hope to give you 'the rest of the story'.



BRITISH WEST INDIES

Patriotic Labels by Chris Miller

In view of the volume of mail originating in the BWI during the War and the size of the British and American communities, it is surprising that so few labels have been identified as originating there.

There are a number of labels, particularly Canadian, which were used in Jamaica but this list is the current state of understanding. Most of those listed have been seen on cover and none are thought to originate elsewhere.

Can you add any other labels where the provenance is known or dates of use? The compiler would appreciate photocopies, which can add to our collective knowledge.

Antigua/Patriotic/1 - 'V for victory' with morse code for 'V'. Size 23 x 35mm red on pink paper (known used elsewhere) perf. 12.5 used 15 September 1941. (Edwards 1/2)

Antigua/Patriotic/2 - 'V between bands in red and blue. Size 25 x 31mm Imperf. Used 26 February 1942.

Bahamas/1 - 'KING GEORGE'S FUND for SAILORS - BAHAMAS BRANCH' size of label (not design) 26 x 37mm in red and blue on white paper. Rouletted by imperforate. Known used 11 November1942.

Bahamas/2 - Picture of sailor and warship 'BAHAMAS APPEAL IN AID OF KING GEORGE'S FUND for SAILORS' size of label (not design) 24 x 37mm in red and blue on white paper. Rouletted by imperforate known used December 1943.

Barbados/Patriotic/1 - 'Barbados British West Indies' man standing on path with palm trees and red cross, black centre yellow frame. (Mosbaugh 1)

Barbados/Patriotic/1a - As above but with blue frame.

Barbados/Patriotic/2 - 'Barbados British West Indies' windmill and red cross, black centre yellow frame pert. 11. Size 51 x 32mm. Issued 1941. (Mosbaugh 2)

Barbados/Patriotic/2a - As above but with blue frame.

Barbados/Patriotic/3 - 'Spend your vacation in Barbados British West Indies' harbour scene with anchors and red cross, black centre and yellow frame Perf 11. Size 51 x 32mm. Issued 1941. (Mosbaugh 3)

Barbados/Patriotic/3a - As above but with blue frame.

Barbados/Patriotic/4 - 'Spend your vacation in Barbados British West Indies' yacht scene with anchors and red cross, black centre and blue frame. Perf 11. Size 51 x 32mm. Issued 1941.

Barbados/Patriotic/5 - 'Spend your vacation in Barbados British West Indies' coastal scene with game fish and red cross, black centre and blue frame Perf 11. Size 51 x 32mm. Issued 1941.







Fig. 2.



Fig. 3. 'FELLOWSHIP OF THE BELLOWS'

These charity labels were introduced in November 1944 by a Mr. Cargill.

Labels were issued once a month to members who then had to pay ½d in respect of each enemy plane shot down during that month for each label held.



Fig. 4. 'ST. DUNS TAN'S - HELP THE WAR BLINDED'

These charity labels were issued by the St. Dunstan 's League at a cost of 1/2d. The Jamaican branch first issued these in March 1941.

Barbados/Patriotic/6 - 'Spend your vacation in Barbados British West Indies' beach scene viewed from under trees with palm trees and red cross, black centre and yellow frame Perf 11. Size 51 x32mm. Issued 1941.

Bermuda/Patriotic/1 - View of sea with red cross. Multicoloured. Perf 12. Size 47.5 x 32mm. (Ed 1/88)

British Guiana/Patriotic/1 - Nurses head against bombed buildings with red cross and frame of red crosses. Perf 13 blue and red. Dates used 5 October 1941 to 18 November 1946. (Ed 1/89)

British Guiana/Patriotic/2 - 'Buy British Guiana Red Cross Stamps' blue with frame of red crosses. (Mosbaugh 1.1)

Cayman Islands/Patriotic/1 - 'Cayman Islands War Fund' with flying boat in frame. Imperf. Blue, black and red. Size 38 x 29mm. Used 27 July 1941. (See Cinderella Philatelist for October 1985).

Dominica/Patriotic/1 - 'Red + Fund / DOMINICA / The safe arrival of / this letter is due to / The ROYAL NAVY & the / RAF.' Printed in small sheets with the outside edges imperforate the design is about 38 x 25mm on creamy white paper. The print is in black except for the words 'Red + Fund' which are in red.	Advert
Jamaica/Patriotic/1 - 'Fellowship of the Bellows, Jamaica' Flying bellows. Perf 11. Size 17 x 22.5mm. Red, blue and black. Used 13 November 1944 to 24 November 1945. (Ed. 1/562).	Stamp Insurance Services
Jamaica/Patriotic/2 - 'Help the War Blinded. St Dunstans Jamaica BWI' Torch and text Perf 12. Size 20 x 23mm. Black and red. Used 21 March 1941 to 9 October 1941. (Ed. 1/563).	•
Jamaica/Patriotic/3 - Jamaica War Fund' with red cross. Perf 13. Size 19 x 23mm. Red. Used from 14 March 1940 to 1941. (Ed. 1/572).	
(Chris Miller is Secretary of the World War II Group of the Cinderella Stamp Club)	

CAYMAN ISLANDS

GEORGE V - 21/2d Blue

by Graham Booth

This article could not have been written without James Podger's article in the BWISC Bulletin of June 1997. It attempts to correct two inconsistencies - one in Aguilar and Saunders, the other in James's article. The De La Rue printings of the 21/2d blue as specified in James's article were as follows:-

Requisition No.	Date	Number printed
33/14	29 May 1914	15,360
38/16	16 Jun 1916	25,200
94/16	23 Nov 1916	51,000
46/17	10 Jul 19l7	90,960
108/17	9 Jan 1918	153,360

The actual issues per Aguilar and Saunders were as follows:-

Issue	Date	Number Issued
SG44 Definitive bright blue	26 Aug 1914	Not known
SG53 overprinted with T14 in Jamaica	26 Feb 1917	23,940
SG54 overprinted with T15 in Jamaica	26 Feb 1917	50,700
SG55 overprinted with T16 in London	4 Sep 1917	420
SG56 overprinted with T17 in London	4 Sep 1917	48,000
		Not known - believed to be 4 subsequent printings
SG44a Definitive deep bright blue	9 Nov 1917	Not known

A comparison of the dates and numbers in the two tables above would suggest the following:-

- 1) The quantity issued for SG44 should be 15,360.
- 2) SG53 was sourced in its entirety from Requisition 38/16. Its issue date was delayed until SG54 arrived back from being overprinted in Jamaica.
- 3) SG54 was sourced in its entirety from Requisition 94/16.
- 4) James's categorisation of Requisition 108/17 as the first London overprint cannot be right. SG55 was released in Grand Cayman on 4 September 1917 and Requisition 108/17 was not printed until 1918. As a consequence the first London overprint must have come from 46/17 printed on 10 July 1917 resulting in both SG55 and SG56. It is probable too, that the Specimens also come from this production run, and not 108/17.
- 5) It follows that Requisition 46/17 can be allocated to 4 categories:
 - a) SG55 420
 - b) SG56 48,000
 - c) Specimens 400 approx.
 - d) SG44a 42,150

6) The entirety of Requisition 108/17 on 1 January 1918 was overprinted with T17. The total production of SG56 was 201,260 resulting from two printings not five as suggested by Aguilar and Saunders.

All of this is nice and neat, and suggests that if Gibbons is correct in differentiating SG44a as deep bright blue, then that should also be the description of SG55 and SG56 - what I would describe as the Management Theory of the 2½d blue! Unfortunately, there is a further inconsistency. Aguilar and Saunders contradict themselves about SG54. In the summary they say there was only one overprinting, totalling 50,700, but in the commentary they say on "September 4th 1917 a reprint of the second type of Jamaican surcharge was also issued".

In addition, the shades of the 2½d blue are anything but neat and tidy. Their variety seems to defy any logic, and has traditionally been attributed to problems De La Rue had through the war years with discontinuity of supplies. However, if Aguillar and Saunders commentary version is the correct one, there is a possible alternative explanation which I would call the Greater Chaos Theory. It is complex and hypothetical.

Even today, after several modernisations, the Harbour in George Town is totally inadequate. On any one day there may be as many as four or five modern cruise liners at anchor, with a container ship in the dock. This is far too small to take any of the cruise ships, and passengers have to transfer to lifeboats and small shuttles to come ashore. In the 1914/18 period the harbour would have been no more than an open roadstead, in which freighters anchored off-shore and transferred their cargo to small sailing craft. There was no such thing as a transit shed. Everything would have been ferried ashore and put into store at the Post Office; probably opened, sorted and checked before it was taken into inventory. This would have been the case even if it was destined to be immediately taken out of stock and sent to Jamaica for overprinting, probably on a schooner that might have been able to come alongside for loading.

In this process (particularly as to Post Office staff all un-overprinted sheets of the 2½d were the same: they were not concerned with requisition numbers) is it not possible that the remainder of the original shipment (Requisition 33/14), which has many relatively pale blue shades, was mixed up with the new shipment of Requisition 38/16? It would appear possible that the latter was in stock in Georgetown for a long time - there is a gap of almost a year between print date and issue date - so that SG53 could have been sourced from a mixture of the first two Requisitions. When we turn to the question of a reprint of SG54, on the assumption that there was one, where did the supply of stamps for overprinting come from? There are two possible answers:-

- Part of the consignment of 51,000 from Requisition 94/16 that had been kept in stock in Georgetown. The original quantity sent to Jamaica for overprinting and issued on 26 February 1917 was not the whole consignment of 94/16, but only a portion of it. More opportunities for mixing different Requisitions whilst in store!
- 2) From that portion of Requisition 46/17 which I have previously allocated as 42,150 stamps of SG44a, the re-issue of the definitive on 9 November 1917. Could it have been done? The print run in London was 10 July; the issue date was 4 September 55 days from London to Georgetown, to Kingston and back to Cayman. Possibly not! Except that if we look at an earlier issue of the Postal Stationery its recorded date of production in London was 6 June 1908 yet it was on sale, per Aguilar and Saunders in Georgetown on 30 June 24 days. And finally, there is a substantial quantity of SG54 which really qualifies for the 'deep bright blue' description.

Which of the two theories is correct? Clearly, in the light of our present knowledge it has to be the first.

There is no hard evidence to substantiate the second, but I have a sneaking suspicion, having lived in Grand Cayman for some years, that some or all of it might be right.

I would like to thank John Byl for having looked over this article and making some helpful suggestions.

GRENADA

1965 2c Provisional

by Andy Soutar

A Shortage of 2c Stamps

Towards the end of 1965, supplies of 2c stamps began to run low; these were from the 29 June printing on multiple Block CA paper. This value paid the local letter rate and was also used for payment of the Stamp Duty on legal documents and receipts over the value of \$4.80. As Christmas was approaching, this was going to cause problems for the Grenada Post Office once stocks of the ½c and 1c stamps had been used up; local businessmen would also have a problem in paying the Stamp Duty required by the law of Grenada.

To help ease the problem, the outgoing \$1.50 definitive was surcharged 2c at a local printers. The surcharge consisted of a large 2' in the centre of the stamp with two black lines obliterating the old value. The surcharged stamp was issued at the GPO in St. Georges on 23 December 1965 and as the issue was intended to ease the local shortages, no bulk orders from the philatelic trade were entertained and all the stamps were sold for local use.

The Crown Agents were not informed of this provisional issue.



Sheets of 50 Stamps

The \$1.50 value was printed in sheets of 50 stamps in 5 rows of 10 and two types of '2' (*Fig. 1*) are present on the sheet. Type I has a ball at the top end of the '2' with a squared vertical end to the base (*Fig. 2*), Type II has a pointed tip at the top with an angled end to the base (*Fig. 3*). The sheet consists of 38 of the Type I and 12 of the Type II (*Fig. 4*). The spacing of the obliterating lines also differs in that the lines can be separated by a space or so close together that it appears as one thick bar. In all 700 sheets were surcharged which makes a total of 35,000 stamps.

Letter from the Postmaster

The 2c surcharged issue is not listed by Stanley Gibbons in Part I but is mentioned in a footnote stating that the issue was intended for revenue use only. A letter from the Postmaster at St. Georges, Mr. L. E. Fletcher, written on 24 February 1966, to a well known firm in the philatelic trade reads as follows:-

II	II						
						II	
							II
	II		II		II	II	
II			II	II	II		

Fig. 4.

"Reference correspondence in connection with the surcharged \$1.50 stamp, please be advised that this stamp is not a genuine postal emission, but was issued to be affixed to receipts as payment of stamp duty for local revenue".

The letter added that the company's remittance was being returned. It does seem however, that the trade were able to buy supplies of the stamps but it had to be in person at the GPO.

Speculation

I have in my own collection a 7c air letter, dated 21 March 1966, to the USA that has been uprated to 15c by the addition of a block of four of the 2c surcharged stamp. The block consists of one Type I and three Type II of the 2c surcharges *(Front Cover)*. The correspondence reads as follows:-

'A stamp dealer from England was here last Sat trying to buy up all the overprinted \$1.50 stamps he could get. Last week they were bringing \$1.68 each on the London market. It looks like we might have a good thing. Postally used ones are worth even more, so if any of my stamps on the envelope got there, keep them. I heard that they issued 35,000 stamps which would be 700 sheets. Best luck."

Used for Postage

This surcharged issue may have been intended only for revenue use but as the supply of ½c, 1c and 2c stamps required for postal purposes were running low, they were accepted for use on mail. The instruction was given that they were to be hand cancelled using a blue pencil when found on mail. The evidence is, however, that they were cancelled using a contemporary cds as per normal mail.

New Definitive Issue Delayed

Bradbury Wilkinson printed the last of the old type definitive 2c value on 4 January 1966 which should have reached Grenada by the middle of January and help relieve the shortage of 2c stamps. Such was the demand that there was another shortage of 2c stamps and the 2c provisional was again used. On 1 April 1966, the new pictorial definitive design was issued, later than planned, and the crisis was now over.

The 2c provisional can be found on mail after this date; I have an air letter to the USA postmarked 28 November 1966 which appears to be a genuine commercial use.

Conclusion

I have now seen many covers with genuine postal use of this 2c surcharged stamp as well as some philatelic covers, all with the stamp cancelled with a cds in the normal way. To date I have not seen an example cancelled using a blue pencil but would like to if anybody has one' Maybe it's time to give this issue postal-fiscal status.

References: Stamp Collecting, April - May 1966.

JAMAICA

Single Ring and Squared-Circle Postmarks by Bill Atmore

Thanks to the likes of Foster, Potter and many others, there is a large volume of information available to the collector of early Jamaican postmarks. The collector of the obliterator marks is particularly well served, due largely to the efforts of Robert Topaz and his often quoted work on their relative scarcity.

The obliterator postmarks were in use from 1859 as a means of cancelling stamps, to avoid reuse, at the post office of dispatch. Concurrently, each office had a circular date-stamp to be used either as a dispatch, transit or arrival mark as required. Some obliterators were still in use in the early years of the 20th century, but most fell out of use during the 1880s and 1890s.

As the obliterator postmarks declined, it became accepted practice to cancel stamps at the point of dispatch using one of the several types of date-stamp available to the Jamaican post offices. Many of the well established offices brought their old single ring circular date-stamps into use for such purposes. Other offices, particularly the many new offices that opened during this period, used either short-lived temporary rubber date-stamps or the combined obliterator/date-stamp squared-circle type postmarks that became fashionable from 1882. From about 1892, the double ring type circular date-stamp became the new permanent standard instrument for most offices, new and old, such that by the early 1900s the obliterator, single ring and squared-circle postmarks were only sporadically used for cancelling purposes.

Foster records some 83 post towns issued with single ring circular date-stamps (his Types P11 and P12, excluding the rare P13) and gives each instrument a rarity rating. What is not clear is how many of these date-stamps were used legitimately for the cancelling of postage stamps once the accompanying obliterator fell out of use or whether the Foster rarity ratings still apply to such use. Similarly, while it is well known that a total of 40 (excluding Kingston) post-offices were issued with the squared-circle type postmark, no attempt (that the author is aware of) has been made to measure relative scarcity of each *covering their entire lifespans* (which stretched well into the 20th century in many cases).

The closest that I have been able to find is a work by Delf Norona titled *Relative Rarity* of 19th Century Jamaican Cancellations that appeared in the September 1928 issue of *The American Philatelist*. While this work contains much very interesting information, some of which is included herein, it relies to a very large extent upon analysis of 15,000 copies of the 1d key-plate of 1889. It can, therefore, only be relied upon to demonstrate the relative rarity of the single ring and squared-circle postmarks during a period of use of about 10 years and upon a single stamp.

A thorough re-examination and census of the single ring and squared-circle date-stamps would seem, therefore, somewhat overdue and a first attempt of such forms the basis of this article. When conducting a census of any description, the sample size is all important. Only if the sample is large enough and random can any firm conclusions be drawn from the results. Finding a large, random sample of early used Jamaican stamps would be many collectors' idea of heaven, one would suspect, but the likelihood of locating such a hoard today is slim and another approach is called for.

During the 1994-5 period I laboriously noted the details of every single fully dated circular or squaredcircle date-stamp I came upon whilst browsing at stamp fairs, examining auction lots etc. This information formed the basis of the census presented in the following pages. This base information has since been supplemented by information received from three collectors (Ray Stanton, Bill Witschard and Keith Moh) whose collections of these postmarks are not of the one-of-each variety and therefore contain at least a semblance of randomness.

Taking all this into account, therefore, the census of the Jamaica circular and squared-circle postmarks that follows should not be considered definitive. However, the information from the four sources used was largely consistent, so I think it can safely be considered a reasonable first approximation. Only as more collectors volunteer additional information will the reliability of the study be improved.

Part 1 - Jamaica Single Ring Postmarks - Census and Rarity

The results of the analysis of 592 reasonably random Jamaican stamps cancelled with Foster Type P11 or P12 instruments are shown in TABLE 1. The emergency uses of these date-stamps due to loss or damage to obliterators have been excluded, as these fall outside of what could be described as 'normal use'.

The EKD is that of the earliest date of use of the date-stamp as a canceller, not to be confused with the dates given by Foster and Potter which are invariably earlier, frequently being the date of despatch of the instrument from the UK.

The LKD and Code Letter information is taken from Potter. Author's updates are in bold italics.

Also included, for comparative purposes, are the results of the 1928 census carried out by Delf Norona (see introduction), based upon analysis of a large quantity of the 1889 1d key-plate. [Note - my copy of this work is incomplete, missing the relevant information for Balaclava. If anyone can provide the missing figure, I'd be very grateful!]



GOLDEN SPRING

HAYES

LITTLE RIVER

PORUS

In both cases, the quantity of each date-stamp within the respective total samples is used to calculate a relative scarcity. Any mechanism of calculating rarity is obviously arbitrary, but that employed here is as follows:

		As adhesive	As adhesive canceller			ensus	1928 C	ensus
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d key	Rarity
Adelphi	P11	MR 16 1900	JY 7 1902	None	8	Ν	2	R
Alley	P11	AU 11 1893	OC 9 1894	None	2	R	12	Ν
Balaclava	P11	AP 29 1801	DE 10 1895	В	10	Ν	?	?
Bluefields	P11	JY 20 1891	JY 29 1904	None	5	S	4	R
Blue Mountain Valley	P11	JY 30 1892	JA 4 1907	А	7	Ν	19	Ν
Buff Bay	P11	FE 18 1884	FE 8 1913	None	32	С	26	Ν
Bull Bay	P11	JY 30 1896	JU 20 1928	None	2	R	2	R
Chapelton	P11	JY 31 1886	?? ?? 1890	А	1	R	-	-
Claremont	P11	SP 5 1890	OC 4 1900	None	9	Ν	24	Ν
Clarks Town	P11	SP 20 1894	MY 9 1902	В	6	S	2	R

TABLE 1 - Jamaica Circular Datestamps

		As adhesiv	e canceller		WA C	ensus	1928 Census	
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d key	Rarity
Cold Spring	P11	JA 29 1892	NO 14 1898	None	2	R	2	R
Dry Harbour	P11	MR 1 1893	NO 2 1896	None	4	S	4	R
Duncans	P11	MY 22 1889	AU 27 1902	А	22	N	41	С
Ewarton	P11	JU 9 1890	AU 20 1902	None	10	N	15	N
Golden Spring	P11	MY 8 1888	SP 5 1890	None	2	R	2	R
Gordon Town	P11	SP10 1886	NO 24 1910	None	15	N	4	R
Grange Hill	P11	SP 17 1894		??	_	-	3	R
Green Island	P11	JA 2 1894	AP 29 1917	None	10	N	7	S
Guys-Hill	P11	AP 5 1897	AU 31 1903	None	8	N	1	R
Half-Way-Tree	P11	SP 12 1890	FE 15 1907	B, None	35	С	23	N
Hampden	P11	JA 25 1905	JU 4 1923	В	12	N	-	-
Hayes	P11	MY 14 1889	MY 30 1922	None	10	N	2	R
Hope Bay	P11	JA 13 1886	MR 7 1910	А	8	N	8	S
Lacovia	P11	AP 19 1899	NO 18 1916	А	31	С	3	R
Linstead	P11	MY 10 1893	0C 30 1894	A	1	R	-	-
Little-London	P11	JA 11 1892	JU 29 1896	А	7	N	8	S
Little River	P11	AP 1 1892	DE 20 1899	В	3	R	1	R
Lucea	P11	AU 4 1890	JY 17 1892	A	11	N	16	N
Malvern	P12	JY 20 1891	OC 19 1898	W	7	N	3	R
May Pen	P11	DE 11 1890	OC 8 1898	None	18	N	49	С
Middle Quarters	P11	FE 24 1888	JA 14 1895	CA	8	N	15	N
Milk River	P11	AU 8 1892	AU 6 1909	None	13	N	10	N
Moneague	P11	MR 5 1891	FE 2 1909	None	23	N	34	N
Morant Bay	P11	SP 13 1887	MR 10 1894	А	9	N	31	N
Newmarket	P11	JY 15 1891	OC 7 1898	А	7	N	5	S
Newport	P12	AP 8 1889	OC 12 1908	А	11	N	19	N
Ocho Rios	P11	SP 11 1889	AP 28 1930	None	45	С	41	С
Pedro	P11	AP 12 1899	SP 22 1939	None	11	N	5	S
Petersfield	P11	MY 1 1893	AP 7 1906	None	14	N	4	R
Port Antonio	P11	FE 22 1888	AU 3 1894	C reversed None	2	R	-	-
Port Maria	P11	JY 1 1885	DE ?? 1896	С	15	N	56	С
Port Royal	P11	DE 5 1891	AP 7 1897	А	10	N	5	S
Porus	P11	JY 24 1889	AU 13 1892	None	3	R	7	S
Priestman's River	P11	MY 22 1893	NO 19 1902	В	14	N	7	S

		As adhesiv	ve canceller		WA C	ensus	1928 Co	ensus
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d key	Rarity
Ramble	P11	MY 9 1892	MY 29 1893	None	2	R	1	R
Richmond	P11	JU 5 1895	AU 2 1898	None	1	R	-	-
Rio Bueno	P11	???? 1891	MR 10 1902	None	2	R	1	R
Saint David	P11	???? 1891	DE 11 1903	А	5	S	10	N
Salt Gut	P11	MR 18 1891	JU 6 1894	A, A inverted, None	4	S	39	С
Santa Cruz	P11	AP 27 1891	OC 6 1899	None	18	N	20	Ν
Savanna-la-Mar	P11	JY 1 1890	JU 25 1894	None	9	N	64	С
Shooter's Hill	P11	AU 11 1890	JA 3 1904	А	19	N	23	Ν
Southfield	P11	JA 2 1899	JA 12 1939	BC, None	17	N	1	R
Spur Tree	P11	JU 8 1891	AU 30 1900	None	3	R	3	R
St. Anns Bay	P11	JA 26 1891	MY 26 1892	None	11	N	173	VC
Trinity-Ville	P11	OC 2 1891	MY 2 1935	С	9	N	8	S
Watson's Hill	P11	FE 2 1901	JA 21 1923	А	9	N	-	-

Total sample = 592 865

Rarity Rating Occurrence

<1 per 200

R (rare)	<1 per 200
S (scarce)	1 per 100
N (normal)	2-4 per 100
C (common)	5-10 per 100
VC (very common)	> 10 per 100

Part 2 _ Jamaica Squared-Circle Postmarks - Census and Rarity

The results of the analysis of 985 reasonably random, fully dated Jamaican stamps cancelled with Squared Circle instruments are shown in TABLE 2.

					WA Census		1928 Census	
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d Key	Rarity
Anchovy	Sml	JU 21 1882	OC 31 1918	A, C, None	14	Ν	?	?
Annotto Bay	Sml	MR 30 1885	DE 18 1897	C facing down, None	14	Ν	?	?
Bath	Sml	FE 25 1890	AU ?? 1923	None	14	Ν	?	?

					WA Census		1928 Census	
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d key	Rarity
Black River	Sml	AU 13 1882	OC 1 1913	A, B, C, <i>C reversed,</i> None	97	С	78	С
Brown's Town	Sml	MR 2 1883	SP 14 1912	A	85	С	147	VC
Cave Valley	Sml	JU 24 1882	SP 14 1935	A, C, None	19	Ν	10	S
Chapelton	Sml	FE 17 1890	OC 21 1926	None	20	Ν	87	С
Christiana	Smi	FE 19 1890	NO 11 1917	None	30	Ν	14	Ν
Crofts Hill	Sml	JY 26 1887	DE 4 1929	None	13	Ν	4	R
Cross Keys	SmI	AP 4 1882	AP 3 1916	A, B, C, C facing down, D, D reversed	13	N	13	Ν
Darliston	Sml	JU 28 1887	JY 29 1935	None	15	Ν	2	R
Devon	Sml	FE 27 1882	AP 26 1919	A, B, C, <i>C reversed,</i> None	15	N	4	R
Falmouth	SmI	AP 20 1881	JU 1 1909	A, A sideways (right), B, B reversed, B facing down	100	VC	131	VC
Fellowship	Lge	SP 26 1900	DE ?? 1935	None	4	R	-	-
Frankfield	Sml	JU 25 1890	SP 9 1926	None	11	Ν	8	S
Glengoffe	Sml	AP 7 1882	JY 10 1927	A, B, C, None	21	Ν	6	S
Hagly Gap	Sml	JA 26 1885	SP ?? 1927	None	23	Ν	9	S
Hampstead	Sml	JU 30 1890	DE 24 1925	None	17	Ν	1	R
Jamaica Exhibition P.O.	Sml	FE 9 1891	MY 16 1891	None	5	R	-	-
Laughlands	Sml	MY 21 1885	AU 22 1911	None	15	Ν	27	Ν
Lluidas Vale	Sml	AP 26 1882	MR 23 1936	A, B, C, None	26	Ν	7	S
Manchioneal	Sml	AP 2 1890	SP 18 1901	None	13	Ν	3	R
Mandeville	Sml	AP 18 1885	JA 5 1920	M, M sideways	94	С	136	VC
Mavis Bank	Lge	NO 21 1900	MR 8 1919	None	4	R	-	-
Mile Gully	SmI	MR 17 1886	NO 12 1894	A, C, <i>C reversed</i> None	17	N	17	Ν

					WA Census		1928 Census	
Post Town	Туре	EKD	LKD	Codes	No. Seen	Rarity	No. on 1d key	Rarity
Montego Bay	Sml	DE16 1884	JU 25 1902	C, C facing up, C facing down None	21	N	36	Ν
Old Harbour	Sml	MR 10 1883	DE 2 1908	A, C	42	С	108	VC
Oracabessa	Sml	FE 2 1882	MY 29 1911	A,B, B reversed, C, None	18	N	12	N
Port Antonio	Sml	JA 25 1889	JU 13 1902	None	22	Ν	47	С
Port Morant	Sml	FE 25 1890	NO 18 1904	None	10	S	6	S
Riverside	Lge	JA 2 1901	MY 3 1935	None	22	Ν	-	-
Salt River	Sml	MR 2 1890	NO 11 1938	None	6	S	1	R
Spanish Town	Lge	MY 6 1900	DE 14 1923	None	16	Ν	2	R
Spur Tree	Lge	AU 31 1900	FE 27 1918	None	2	R	-	-
St. Margaret's Bay	Sml	FE 17 1890	FE 24 1902	None	8	5	11	Ν
Stewart Town	Sml	AP 22 1890	MY 30 1925	None	26	Ν	12	Ν
Ulster Spring	Sml	FE 3 1882	NO 13 1918	A, B, C, None	33	Ν	26	Ν
Up Park Camp	Sml	OC 13 1884	AU 8 1910	None	39	Ν	13	Ν
Whitehouse	Sml	JU 20 1892	AU 28 1927	None	9	S	5	R
York Castle	Smi	MY 8 1883	OC 19 1899	A, B, C	12	Ν	3	R
			Total	l Sample =	985		986	



CAVE VALLEY



STEWART TOWN



FRANKFIELD



MAVIS BANK



JAMAICA EXHIBITION



WHITEHOUSE

Also included, for comparative purposes, are the results of the 1928 census carried out by Deif Norona (see introduction), based upon analysis of a large quantity of the 1889 1d key-plate. [Note -my copy of this work is incomplete, missing the relevant information for Anchovy, Annotto Bay and Bath. Again if anyone can provide the missing figures, I'd be very grateful!]

The mechanism of calculating rarity employed is as per Part 1 above.

Part 3 - Endnote

In addition to the 1928 study by Delf Norona, another key-plate based work appeared in the Jamaica Philatelic Society's Quarterly Bulletin of March 1942. In an article titled *An Adventure In Postmarks,* Arthur Pierce gave the results of his examination of 25,000 1d key-plates, all used between 1892 and 1896. Unfortunately, Pierce thought fit to publish only some aspects of his findings, but, even though incomplete, they are well worth summarizing.

After putting to one side the numerous Kingston postmarks and those with such poor or partial marks to defy accurate identification, Pierce was left with the following specimens for closer examination:-

Obliterator postmarks - 313 (just over 1%) Single Ring postmarks _1,240 (about 5%) Squared Circle postmarks _1,264 (about 5%) Temporary Rubber Datestamps _15 (0.06%)

Of the Single Ring postmarks, Pierce comments that they "were about evenly distributed, or at least with all the listed towns in fair quantity. I have not tabulated them". Annoyingly, he doesn't qualify what he means by "listed towns" either! The one surprise is that he only found 2 copies (in a sample of 25,000!) of the Half Way Tree CDS (whereas Norona recorded 23)

Of the Squared-Circles, Pierce reports finding a full set of 35 (of the small type), all bar ten being "relatively plentiful". The ten are:-

York Castle - 6 copies St. Margaret's Bay - 5 copies Croft's Hill - 4 copies Hagly Gap, Anchovy - 3 copies Salt River, Christiana - 2 copies Hampstead, Darliston, Jamaica Exhibition P.O. - 1 copy

On the basis that he also found one stamp "used in Caymans", he concludes that the Hampstead, Darliston and Jamaica Exhibition P.O. postmarks are as rare as Cayman SG Z2 (catalogue £400) on the 1d Keyplate 'at least during the period in question'. As shown in the previous section, both the Hampstead and Darliston squared-circle postmarks lived long lives, but it is interesting to note their apparent rarity early in their life spans. The 'R' rating bestowed upon the Jamaica Exhibition P.O. postmark seems completely vindicated!

JAMAICA

A QUERY by John Davis

I have recently purchased a cover with a block of 4 of SG 68c 'WAR STAMP overprint inverted'. The write-up (I believe from the early 1980s) that came with this cover states that "only one other cover with multiple variety known". I would be pleased to hear from any members who are able to confirm (or otherwise) that this statement still holds good today.

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MONTSERRAT

ST. JOHNS TRD

by Simon Goldblatt

I can at last confirm what Montserrat specialists have tended to infer. A TRD did exist for St. Johns along with the other village offices.

Sadly, my discovery example is so vestigial I am almost ashamed to describe it. The strike is in black on the stamp one would expect, the 1d carmine of 1929. It is visible only towards the top but enough of the circle shows to give an approximate 28mm diameter, an adequate match for the other village products. The lettering is sans-serif at the top of the instrument, and one can read 'T JOHN' with sufficient confidence. Evidence enough to exclude an arrival mark from Antigua. Beyond that, we shall just have to wait for the next example to turn up. There is no trace of a date, although usage must surely have been 1929 or 1930; and if this stamp was once on a philatelic cover - which I should regard as unlikely - the recipient must have been rather disappointed.

Given the lack of uniformity that we can now see to exist amongst the TRDs of this period, one is tempted to assume that it was left to the initiative of the individual village functionary to indent for his or her choice of temporary date stamp.

MONTSERRAT

WAR TAX by John Davis

In response to Chris May's article in the June Bulletin, I have some information (not a lot) that will add to the 'puzzle'.

The small overprint exists on the following stamps (catalogue numbers are from Gibbons 1999, so they may have since changed):

Br. Virgins 1d and 3d (whether the short overprint applies to all shades, I do not know). I have no examples.

Caymans ¹/₂d Green SG57a (4 Feb 1919) have a pane with the thin 'S' overprint in black.

Montserrat 1/2d Green SG60a (Oct 1917) overprint in red. I have an example with the broken 'S'.

SG61a (Jun 1918) overprint in black. I have an example with the broken 'S'.

1/2d Deep green SG61bb (Oct 1918) overprint in black. I have no examples.

St. Kitts 11/2d Orange SG23a (Aug 1918) overprint in black. I have an example with the broken 'S'.

This, I regret, is not very conclusive, but it proves that the Montserrat red overprint exists with both the thin, and broken 'S', and the black overprint exists with the thin 'S' (Caymans) and the broken 'S (Montserrat and St. Kitts). Both Chris and I would be interested to hear from other members as a result of their research that would help us build up our knowledge of the 'S' variety.

COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE!!

Peter Fernbank delves into Ewen's Weekly Stamp News.

The second instalment of Simon Goldblatt's review of the new Virgin Islands handbook (and maybe a reply from the author??)

Material for the next and subsequent issues is welcome.

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WILLIAM S. ALLMAN

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PETER SINGER

Amendments to Membership Listing:

New Member:

Last Name	Initial	Address	Phone/Fax/E-mail	Interests
Warren	ML			1900-50 Defins
				BAH, BER, LEE, STL,
				STK, JAM, GRE, ANT,

BVI

Amendments to Membership Listing:

Last Name Blouch	Initial J D	Address	Phone/Fax/E-mail	Interests BAH, General BWI
Cohen	L			JAM (Specialised) 1860-1990. CO, CS, CA, CL, OB, PM, RV, PB, PH, WT, Registered Covers,
Gordon	JΗ			Jamaica Town Cancels BER (US, G6/HV) TOB, TRI, TRO (most codes)
Robertson	A FRPSL			TUR, TUC
Wilkinson	AL			JAM - limited areas - (CA, Ca, ME, OB, PA, PC, PH, PL, PM, SL)

BRITISH CARIBBEAN PHILATELIC STUDY GROUP

RECENT MONOGRAPHS (All prices include surtace postage)

Leeward Islands: A Postal History Anthology (Pub-1997) 74p. £13 Ludington. Postal History of Blockade Running Through Bermuda, 1861 - 1865 (Pub 1996) 51p. £13 Forand & Freeland, Bermuda Mails to 1865 (Pub-1995) 124p. £13 Devaux, Early Air Mails of Saint Lucia (Pub-i 993) 26p. £6.50

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BOOK REVIEW by Simon Goldblatt

British Virgin Islands 1787-2001

Our 2001 Learnington Convention saw the release of a 312 page specialized Stamp Catalogue for Virgin Islands, edited by Giorgio Migliavacca. Although this catalogue includes some material on 'Postal History, Postmarks and Cancellations', as the subtitle proclaims, the information is sparse, and a companion volume of equal length is foreshadowed, which one can expect to deal with these important topics in full detail.

Most members of our Circle take only a passing interest in Virgin Islands philately, and all will be surprised in varying degrees that so much space can be devoted to the subject. Yet the work is well-conceived, is for the most part well - and occasionally beautifully - illustrated; and in its second half covers the issues of KGVI and QE2 right up to he present year, with a wealth of detail, careful pricing and annotation of the issued stamps and derivative specialist information and varieties, and authoritative discrimination between authentic issues and the contrived productions of a rogue agency in the late 1980s.

In the QE2 section, issued quantities are given only up to the 1970 definitives, and one must infer that figures for later issues have never been made public.

For the reigns of KEVII and KGV only 15 pages are needed, and these incorporate the innovation of presenting familiar watermarks as they appear from the front and back of a stamp, in all combinations of normal upright, sideways to left and right, inverted and reversed. The section also includes a minute analysis (and valuations) of varieties on the 1935 Silver Jubilee issue which will be unfamiliar to most of us, whether or not they deserve recognition in a catalogue.

By far the greatest detail is reserved for the QV era and, strangely enough - or is it because this is the area best known to your reviewer (?) - this is the portion of the work most open to criticism for error or inadequacy.

The QV section sets out to reveal the plating characteristics of the classic four values (1d, 4d, 6d and 1s) produced by Nissen & Parker and afterwards, with the aid of the original dies, by De La Rue - primarily by lithography in each case. Criticism is probably best attempted in segments.

<u>The 1866 1d and 6d values.</u> The editors (Migliavacca and Downing) follow the Stanley Gibbons tradition - and prices, near enough - in identifying green and deep green, rose and deep rose, each on white or toned paper. They allocate one eleventh of the consignment quantities of 22,000 and 11,000 to toned paper in the case of the 1d and white paper in the case of the 6d, on a basis which can only be arbitrary. It has long been my view, of course, that 'toning' in the paper only reflects varying degrees of exposure to a tropical climate, with the 6d rose colour enhancing the stamp's susceptibility to toning. However, in my reconstructed sheets of each value more than half the 1d stamps and all the 6d stamps show some degree of toning. As the 1d stamps are all singles (there are three blocks amongst the 6d ones) they are likely to derive from not less than 20 sheets, and the sample might be considered statistically significant. In the case of the 6d, my only examples on reasonably white paper are all used. These may have left the Colony after a much shorter period in the Post Office.

<u>The 1d compound perf. 15x12.</u> The editors report on 9 unused, 2 used examples and incorporate five illustrations. One of these urgently needs to be plated: for, if one can judge at all from a black and white illustration, it might well turn out to derive from a perf. 15 consignment. Even if it so transpired, this may not disturb reported numbers, as the editors, though clearly aware of one of my own two examples, may not be aware of the other.

<u>Proofs.</u> Die proofs in their several colours and shades are carefully listed: our other V-P is in a better position to say whether the details are comprehensive. I should have liked more depth to the commentary on plate proofs. The editors refer with understandable pride to the full sheet of the unissued (rejected) transfer of the 6d in deep blue and to Migliavacca's own part sheet of 20 (ex-Nissen stock) but do not mention that examples from the same transfer exist in rose. Neither do they discuss, as perhaps

they should, whether any imperforate sheets of the 1d actually arrived in Roadtown and led to genuine used imperforate stamps. I should also mention the existence of a scissor-separated stamp from the original transfer, with almost full gum. It is perf. 15 all round.

The large 'V' variety. On page 26 it is claimed, with the aid of six very poor illustrations, that there were 'early', 'intermediate' and 'late' stages of this variety. I believe that these epithets betoken a general misunderstanding of the way in which Nissen & Parker prepared their stones for printing, and I shall expand this comment later. My own evaluation strongly suggests what I have termed a 'clean' and a 'dirty' state of both the 6d and 4d values. In the case of the 6d, these correspond to the editors' 'late' and 'early' stages, and eleven examples show 7 clean, 4 dirty (of which the editors would classify one as 'intermediate').

Plating Notes. With these and subsequent issues, detailed plating notes are given of individual stamps, with many enlarged, albeit often somewhat blurred, illustrations. The notes build upon the original research by Yardley, as enhanced and extended by S. A. Brown, to each of whom some acknowledgements are made.

The 1d perf. 15. The editors correctly record a printed quantity of 37,800 for these issues, but fail to break this down into the component (from memory) ten consignments. This is a major omission, because the number of consignments, and the quantities in each, are the only real clue to the separation of unrecorded transfers in the almost total absence of unexamined multiples from which a plating guide can be assembled.

Let me make it clear, however, that it is not the case of one consignment, one new transfer, as at one time I assumed to be the case. My plating analysis persuaded me of two points: first that there are more than ten transfers that can be identified; secondly, that the stone was not necessarily cleaned between separate consignments. If the full story were able to be told, though I don't believe it ever will be, there were probably as many separate transfers as are known to have existed for Nevis; but it's necessary first to review the editor's treatment of the recorded transfers.

The original transfer in sheets of 20 stamps. On p.55, the editors refer initially (and wrongly) to 75 sheets and lower down (correctly) to 50 sheets, making 1,000 stamps in all. As the near complete sheet of 18 stamps survives and is now in the Royal Collection along with S. A. Brown's other complete sheets, there is no plating controversy here. The original printing is exactly equivalent to the 6d perf. 15 in format and scarcity as issued, and in my experience is still equivalent in rarity. The editors, however, miss a crucial plating point: most of the stamps, in common with the 4d, 6d and is values in this perforation, show one or more blind perfs (termed 'skipped' perfs. elsewhere by the editors) and this is the only transfer on which this phenomenon is seen on a 1d value.

Transfers A and B. With these transfers, Migliavacca chimes in with Yardley and S. A. Brown. I have not noted any solecism. For the aspiring plater, if you do find a surviving mint multiple, the chances are it will come from Transfer B.

Transfers E and F. These are illustrated as sheets, but plating notes are not given. I conclude (but have not checked at the time of writing) that where the editors on pages 69 to 75 illustrate as Z1 to Z47 "Varieties perf. 15 which do not belong to transfer A or B", these include a number, about 20 as a statistical guess, which do belong to Transfer C, D, For F and are therefore platable. More of this anon.

Transfer D. Oh dear! On page 68 we see an enlarged illustration headed "Transfer 'Y' - [Not Brown's C or D]". Well, I'm sorry, folks, but transfer D it is! Either that, or when I was loaned photographs from Brown's original Virgin Is. holding, to assist me with plating, each photo duly labelled with its letter, someone somewhere had already got his wires crossed. Please, please correct for the next edition.

Transfer C. Oh dear, oh dear! This has been lost to sight in the current work. I know of no complete surviving sheets, and Brown's plating was derived from overlapping blocks from the lower two rows. Subsequently a block from positions 5, 6, 8 and 9 came to light, and I have position 5 firmly identified in my collection - three examples in different intensities of shade - plus a 'possible' for position 6. This corresponds, actually, to Migliavacca's Z5, which helps out with my guess under 'Transfers F and F'.

Unplated Transfers. We read (again going back to p.55), "Other scholars suggest there were as many as eight transfers". This does not refer to myself. I have no pretensions to be a scholar, and the figure that I would propound is fifteen to eighteen!

Let us look at some evidence. Leaving aside a few dozen stamps whose condition is too poor to achieve album status, I have mounted in my principal album about 80 stamps which do not belong to the rare printing, or to any of transfers A, B, C (the 8 known positions), D, E or F. They have not necessarily been checked for internal duplication, so let us say there are 50 different. With the known transfers I have made particular efforts, so that A and B are fully plated, there is one each missing from C and F, two from E, three from D. Should not my 50 different as above represent about 100 stamps from completed sheets, say, 8 or 9 sheets in all?

Now we come to the layout on the stone. What Nissen & - Parker did - and this is known from surviving Nevis proof material in the hands of the RPSL - was to lay down panes side by side on the same stone. Thus, although they supplied the stamps in sheets of 12, these were printed in slabs of 24 or 36 - or even 48, but not, I think, in the case of Virgin Is. One would expect to find, and I am sure that we do find, stamps which are reciprocal to known plated transfers but do not belong to them. The clearest examples perhaps relate to Transfer C, whose characteristics usually include, for instance, a break somewhere along the right-hand frame-line. I have enough in this category to make three panes in parallel.

Let it be conceded that to see page after page of 1d green perf. 15 is deadly boring for the uninitiated. The editors, however, recognize that this issue [sic, for 'these issues'] require(s) further study. Is it unfair to suggest that the editors, dedicated as they have undoubtedly been, might with advantage have made contact with two quite prominent members of our Circle known to have certain holdings of Virgin Is. material?

[To be continued]

AUCTION REPORT

A Personal Appraisal of Recent Sales

by Charles Freeland

Spink, 19 September

Rumours had been out before the sale of the famous collection of Trinidad formed by our former VP the late Sir John Marriott that there was a new buyer around. This optimism had to be weighed against the uncertainty of the market in the aftermath of the dreadful news from the US, the absence of several buyers who had planned to attend in person and scepticism about a dormant country suddenly coming to life.

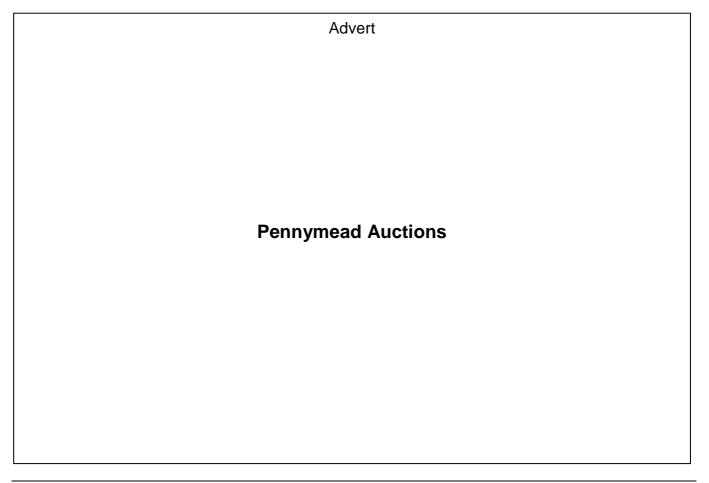
In the event, the sale was a triumph from the word go. For every section of the sale, there were eager buyers. Phone bidding was fast, or relatively fast, and furious and record prices were achieved throughout. The most astonishing moment was when a youngish man with his lady in tow walked into the room as the postage dues were called and proceeded to hold his paddle aloft impassively during nearly all that rich section, leaving many frustrated Study Circle members. If there was a quieter segment, it came during the postal stationery when one of our dealer members with a passing interest in Trinidad came into his own.

The demand for Marriott's Trinidad does not necessarily mean that stale stocks should be immediately repriced. Although I had seen the collection displayed in San Francisco, I was unprepared for its strength and depth. Nearly every page of the catalogue contained world-class rarities and there was a marvellous range of stamped covers. The only areas of comparative weakness I spotted were the revenues and the forgeries, and of course the collection only contained the period of Trinidad stamps so there were few 20th century items and no airmails, for example.

The sheer quality and the fact that many choice items had been unavailable for 50 years brought in rich buyers who may not pay half as much for a similar item elsewhere. Eyebrows started to be raised with the cover to the Tower of London bearing the 1804 horseshoe at £3,500 (all prices hammer subject to

15% premium plus VAT). The two Lady McLeods (£22,000 each) confirmed that bidders were serious and the aggression went on through the Britannia die proofs (£12,000 for the undenominated master proof) and lithographs. The 'set' of 6 progressive Britannia die proofs acquired for £2,700 in the Forsyth sale in 1978 went to £21,000 and some of the De La Rue archive material showed a similar healthy return. All the many choice covers were fought for, with a phone bidder from the US winning out more times than not. When the pin perfs came up, prices of up to twice Gibbons were not uncommon for items of quality and provenance, with some exceptional items up to four times. The later proofs were in demand and so were the postmarks, though here the phones were less active and prices more rational. However, the 1901 1d with missing value cost effectively twice the Gibbons price at £17,000. Later on, as in every large sale, there was an opportunity for the patient to scoop up a few trifles, but even to the last there was aggressive bidding with the Venezuela D22 cover fetching £3,200 to another phone bidder. I was thankful that my interest in the sale was basically confined to the French maritime items, of which there were enough to go round.

The analysis of buyers surprisingly revealed more buyers than for the Ludington collections in 1999. There were over 60 room bidders and about six on the phones. Together with the book bidders and the clients of agents Weekes and Lancaster, I would estimate a minimum of 100 bidders, not bad for an 'unpopular' country. In all, there were about 60 buyers, although 20 or so bought a single lot and another dozen two or three. At the other end of the scale, three buyers bought over £100,000, one of them close to £200,000. The next three buyers were the three major UK dealers, Orlandini, Taylor and Kinns (some of them probably handling commission bids). There were five private buyers around the £10,000 mark and one as high as £16,000. Total sales were £670,000 and every lot was sold - a rare event nowadays with so many reserved sales. Congratulations are due to Spink, whose efforts must have been a source of comfort for the Marriott family.



LEADERS' NOTES

Leeward Islands Group

The first meeting was held after the Learnington Convention closed when seven members were present and six apologies received.

It was agreed that:-

1. The Group's commitment to producing articles for the Bulletin has been met for this year and is in hand for the next two years.

2. The Scrap-book will be put in order, updated and returned to the library shortly.

3. We undertake a research project on flaws of the Universal Postage & Revenue Type 1890-1956 to produce a specialized listing. This will probably be in two or three categories according to their prominence and interest in assigning them to particular dates printings and plates.

Additions to the Library

1.14.1	CIVIL CENSORSHIP STUDY GROUP BULLETIN, Oct 1999 Vol 26 No 4 whole number 124 (detailed study on British Guiana)	top
2.3.8	POSTAL HISTORY OF BAHAMAS, E. B. Proud Proud-Bailey 2000	A1
2.7.9	POSTAL HISTORY OF BRITISH GUIANA, E. B. Proud Proud-Bailey 2000	A1
2.13.2	8.6 ENCYCLOPAEDIA OF JAMAICAN PHILATELY Vol 6, BWISC 2001	Тор
2.14.8	LEEWARD ISLANDS Notes for Philatelists M. N. Oliver, BWISC 2000	B1
2.16.3	Classic Collections - Federico Borromeo's NEVIS, BWISC 2001	B1
2.27.3	TURKS & CAICOS POSTAL HISTORY SCRAPBOOK, M. R Wilson	cupboard
2.27.4	TURKS & CAICOS POSTAL STATIONERY SCRAPBOOK, M.R. Wilson	cupboard
4.22	EARLY ROUTINGS OF THE ROYAL MAIL STEAM PACKET COMPANY 1842-1879, Phil Kenton & Harry Parsons Postal History Society 1999	Тор
4.23	HARRISON LINE 1853-1977 a history 1977	A2
5.12	AIRMAILS OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, R. G. Wike, BWISC 2000	Тор
6.1.6	6, 6.1.7, 6.1.8.1, 6.1.8.2, 6.1.8.3, 7.3.1.1, 7.3.1.2 and 7.3.1.3 location now cupboard	
7.4.8	Indices to THE TRINIDAD PHILATELIC REVIEW 1946-57 and TRINIDAD PHILATELIC SOCIETY BULLETIN 1-200 Sept 1998	Тор
9.4.24	.2 Sir John Marriott, Spink 19.9.2001	A4
10.3, 1	0.3.1, 10.3.2 location now cupboard	
10.59	THE UNISSUED STAMPS OF KING GEORGE VI, David Horry, Murray Payne 2001	B4

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